

Application No.: 10/196,682  
Response dated: August 3, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of May 6, 2004

### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present claims, in light of the attached claim clarifications and the Remarks, which follow, is respectfully requested.

Claims now before the Examiner are 1- 56.

Regarding the difference between "120 microns" of claim 43 and the Specification at page 14, lines 16 and 17, at paragraph [0044], Applicants have chosen to amend the Specification and claims as follows:

The terminology of "passing through 120 US mesh" implies to the reader that 0-2 % of the fines are smaller than 120 US mesh. As 120 US mesh and 125 microns are equal, Applicants propose amending the Specification and claim 47 to further include these alternate embodiments.

Support for the amendment to claim 33 is found in paragraph [0086] at page 28, line 13.

#### **Objections**

The disclosure is Objected to at paragraph [0013] at page 6, line 2. The paragraph has been amended.

The disclosure is further Objected to because of the difference between 120 microns and 120 US mesh. This difference is addressed above.

Claim 56 is objected to due to improper wording. The wording has been amended.

Withdrawal of the Objections is respectfully requested.

#### **Rejections Under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph**

*Claims 37-44 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph*

A. Claim 37 and those that depend from it are Rejected by the Examiner as having inadequate antecedent basis for "the cycle gas density". Applicants have amended claim 33, from which claim 37 depends to address this issue.

B. Claim 43 was stated to be ambiguous. The word "about" as relates to "0" has been removed.

Withdrawal of the Rejections is respectfully requested.

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Claims 1-56 should now be allowable, as save for the above Objections and Rejections, the Examiner has indicated allowability.

All of the Examiner's Rejections have been addressed.

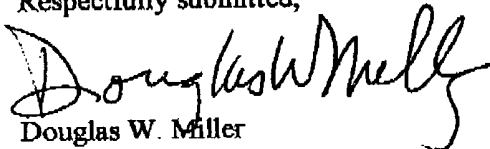
The claims are in condition for allowance.

Note is made that the correspondence should be sent to:

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Respectfully submitted,



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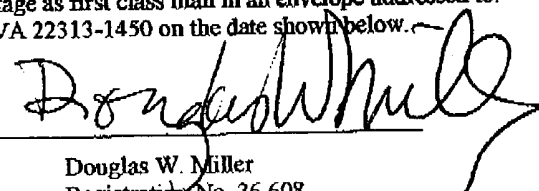
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

August 3, 2004

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